

Appl. No.: 10/023,699
Filed: December 21, 2001
Amdt. dated 03/14/2006

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 26, 2005. Claims 1-12 currently stand rejected. Claims 1-12 have been canceled, without prejudice. Thus, the rejections of claims 1-12 are not moot. Applicants have added new claims 13-18 to further define particular aspects of the claimed invention. No new matter has been added by the amendment.

In light of the amendment and the remarks presented below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all now-pending claims of the present application.

Newly Added Claims

Applicant has added new claims 13-18 to more particularly define aspects of the claimed invention. The newly added claims recite additional features that are patentably distinct over the cited references. The new claims include no new matter and are fully supported by the specification and the drawings of the present application.

New independent claim 18 recites, *inter alia*, a method of controlling a mobile telephone network in which a redirection state of a mobile telephone network determines whether, when the mobile telephone network is in receipt of a text message sent to a mobile telephone network destination address, the text message is sent to the mobile telephone network destination address or converted to an email which is sent over a data network to a data network destination address associated with the mobile telephone network destination address.

Canceled claims 1-12 were rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by Wells et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,281, hereinafter Wells). Wells is directed to formatting problems associated with sending short message service (SMS) messages by email to a mobile device. Since SMS messages sent over an email network may not be in a correct format to be displayed by the mobile device, Wells discloses a method of transforming message formats. Wells discloses that the format of a received message is determined and then a determination may be made that an application is required to process the message. If the mobile device supports the application required, then the application is opened and the SMS message is

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displayed using the application. If the device does not support the application, then the data of the SMS message is transformed into a format supported by the mobile device.

Wells fails to teach or suggest redirecting messages sent to a first destination address to a second and different address in a different network. In fact, Wells is only concerned with transforming messages from a first format to a second format. Therefore, Wells fails to teach or suggest a method of controlling a mobile telephone network in which a redirection state of a mobile telephone network determines whether, when the mobile telephone network is in receipt of a text message sent to a mobile telephone network destination address, the text message is sent to the mobile telephone network destination address or converted to an email which is sent over a data network to a data network destination address associated with the mobile telephone network destination address, as claimed in independent claim 18. Independent claim 13 is directed to a system capable of performing the method of independent claim 18. Accordingly, independent claim 13 is believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as given above for independent claim 18. Claims 14-17 depend directly from independent claim 13 and are therefore allowable at least due to their dependency from an allowable independent claim.

Accordingly, it is believed that the new claims are in condition for allowance.

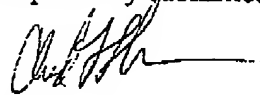
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CONCLUSION

In view of the new claims and the remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

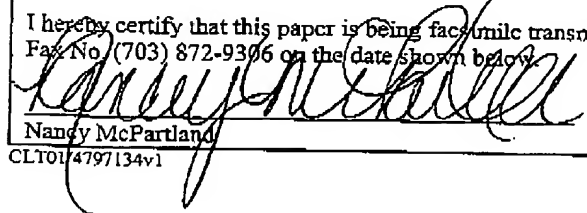


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